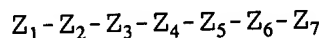


Claim 29 (amended) A single-stranded oligonucleotide OZ comprising 15 to 39 nucleotides and hybridizes under mild or stringent conditions with a consensus signal characteristic of amidated polypeptide hormones with the sequence having the formula



wherein  $Z_1$  is a nucleotide sequence of 1 to 12 nucleotides or is absent,  $Z_2$  and  $Z_3$  are two trinucleotides which code for Leu,  $Z_4$  and  $Z_5$  are two trinucleotides which code for any two amino acids,  $Z_6$  is a trinucleotide which codes for Leu and  $Z_7$  is a nucleotide sequence of 1 to 12 nucleotides or is suppressed.

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REMARKS

The present amendment is being submitted in order to change the word "absent" to "suppressed" in order to obviate the Examiner's objection to the original claims.

The only claims in the application are claims 26 to 30, all other claims having been cancelled.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the above remarks,  
it is believed that the claims clearly point out Applicants'  
patentable contribution and favorable reconsideration of the  
application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bierman, Muserlian and Lucas

By:



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CAM:ds  
Enclosures